

## JUSTIFICATION FOR EXTENSION OF CLASSIFICATION

Only officials with Top Secret classification authority may classify information for more than six years from the date of the original classification. This authority shall be exercised sparingly and when used, a declassification date or event, or a date for review of the information must be established. This date or event shall be as early as national security permits but no longer than twenty years after original classification, except that for foreign government information the date or event may be up to thirty years after original classification. (Sec. 1-402, E.O. 12065.)

Classification may be extended beyond six years for one or more of the following reasons:

1. The information is "foreign government information" as defined in this Agency Classification Guide.
2. The information is specifically protected by statute or treaty.
3. Continued protection of the information is essential to the national security because it reveals intelligence sources or methods which, if lost, cannot be regained or replaced, or whose disclosure would cause identifiable damage to the national security.
4. The information pertains to cryptography and thus its continued protection is absolutely essential to the national security.
5. The information could reveal vulnerability or capability data, the unauthorized disclosure of which can reasonably be expected to result in negating or nullifying the effectiveness of a system, installation or project important to the national security.
6. The information concerns plans, operations, or activities important to national security, the unauthorized disclosure of which can reasonably be expected to result in negating or nullifying the effectiveness of the plan, operation or activity, or impeding its orderly implementation.
7. The information concerns foreign relations matters, the continued protection of which is essential to the national security.
8. Disclosure of the information would place in immediate jeopardy a person important to the national security.